Docket No.: 397272000401





# **REMARKS**

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## Status of the Claims

Application No.: 10/664,331

Claims 1-3, 5-15, 17-23, 27-30, 33-35, 38, 40-43, 45, 47, 48, 50, 52, 53, 56-59, 61-64, 66-71, 83-88, 90, 93, 94 and 97-101 are currently pending and under examination. Claims 15, 17, 19-21, 23, 27, 28, 48, 50, 53, 57, 85-87, 93, 97, 100 and 101 stand withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a nonelected invention. Claims 27, 28, 84 and 94 are canceled herein without prejudice. Claims 1, 34, 59, 69, 70 and 85-88 are amended herein. The claim amendments are supported by the specification at, e.g., page 21, lines 27-29, page 22, lines 5-8, page 26, lines 7-11, and by the claims as filed, or are editorial in nature. No new matter is added by way of these amendments. Entry of the claim amendments and reconsideration in view of the following remarks are respectfully requested.

#### Formal Matters

Applicants thank the Examiner for modifying the "restriction" requirement to be treated as a species election.

# Claim Objections under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c)

Claims 85-88 are objected to under 37 C.F.R. § 1. 75 (c), as being of improper dependent form for failing to further limit the subject matter of a previous claim. Applicants respectfully traverse the objection.

Claims 85-87 are rewritten herein in independent form, rendering the objections moot with respect to these claims. Claim 88 is already presented in independent form. In view of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request that the claim objections be withdrawn.

## Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 112, Second Paragraph

Claims 1-3, 5-14, 18, 22, 29, 30, 33-35, 38, 40-43, 45, 47, 52, 56, 58, 59, 61-64, 66-71, 83, 84, 88, 90, 94, 98, and 99 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly